

Message Text

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21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-11

JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-05 OES-05

OMB-01 /069 W

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R 191530Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3885

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

UNCLAS ALGIERS 0436

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: SNAR AG MO SZ UK

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS: PENALTIES ON CONVICTED FOREIGN TRAFFICKERS

UPHELD OR INCREASED

1. OFFICIAL PRESS ANNOUNCED FEB 12 THAT ORAN PENAL COURT ON FEB 7 HAD

UPHELD OR INCREASED SENTENCES IMPOSED ON FIVE FOREIGN DRUG TRAFFICKERS

LAST FALL. FIVER ARE:

A. MOKHTAR ALLICHE. ALLICHE IS MOROCCAN SUBJECT CONDEMNED TO 20YEARS IN PRISON AND DA 20,000 (\$5,000) FINE. HE HAD BOUGHT KIF IN "KATHMANDU GREENERY" OF HIS COUNTRY FOR RESALE IN ALGERIA AND WHEN ARRESTED, HAD BEEN CARRYING 76 KILOS OF CHIRA. ALLICHE'S SENTENCE WAS NOT CHANGED.

B. JACK MILBERN. MILBERN, AN ENGLISHMAN, WAS SENTENCED TO 7 YEARS AND UNSPECIFIED FINE FOR CONCEALING 70 KILOGRAMS OF KIF, PURCHASED IN MOROCCO, IN HIS CAR WHEN HE ENTERED ALGERIA. MILBERN'S SENTENCE WAS INCREASED TO 10 YEARS AND HIS FINE WAS LEFT UNCHANGED.

C. RICHARD JOSEPH BUCHER, JOHN FRIDOLIN AND ALBERT KUPPEL.

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BUCHER, FRIDOLIN AND KUPPEL ARE SWISS CITIZENS CONVICTED OF CONCEALING 15 KILOGRAMS OF KIF IN THEIR VEHICLE. THEIR SENTENCES

WAS INCREASED FROM 3 TO 5 YEARS AND THEIR FINES LEFT UNCHANGED.

2. PRESS ARTICLE GOES ON TO REITERATE ALGERIAN POSITION THAT WHEN FRANCE AND SPAIN HAD TIGHTENED THEIR DRUG ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES, ALGERIA HAD BECOME OBJECT OF TRAFFICKERS' ATTENTION. THUS, DRACONIAN MEASURES WERE CALLED FOR, AND 20 ARRESTS AND CONFISCATION OF "HUNDREDS OF KILOS OF DRUGS" FOLLOWED. ARTICLE ALSO MAINTAINS THAT CHIRA IS NOT ONLY "ENCOURAGED AND AVAILABLE" IN MOROCCO BUT EXTREMELY CHEAP, SINCE IT SELLS IN EUROPE AT 10-20 TIMES ITS PURCHASE PRICE.

3. ARTICLE MAINTAINS THAT LATEST VERDICTS END "ONE OF GRAVEST DRUG PROBLEMS OUR COUNTRY HAS EVER KNOWN." THIS SUGGESTS FURTHER APPEAL UNLIKELY. PARKER

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